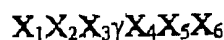


## AMENDMENTS

I. IN THE CLAIMS

- A. Please amend the following claims by deleting the material in brackets and inserting that which is underlined:

- cl 4. (amended) A polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



wherein  $\gamma$  is  $[-NH-CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-CONH-]$  hairpin linkage derived from  $\gamma$ -aminobutyric acid or] a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid; and

$[X_1/X_2, X_3/X_4, \text{ and } X_5/X_6]$   $X_1/X_6, X_2/X_5, \text{ and } X_3/X_4$  represent three carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound.

5. (amended) A polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



wherein  $\gamma$  is  $[-NH-CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-CONH-]$  hairpin linkage derived from  $\gamma$ -aminobutyric acid or] a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid; and

$X_1/X_8, X_2/X_7, X_3/X_6, \text{ and } X_4/X_5$  represent four carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound.